Raids on the Officers of the Income Tax department

4041. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the raids conducted by Government against the officers of the Income Tax Department during 1st January to 31st July, 1987 to unearth illegal wealth; and

(b) the names of the officers concerned with their designations and the follow-up action taken after the raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reward to informers of income tax Evaders

4042. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to an advertisement of his Ministry a reward of 10 per cent is paid to the income tax informer; if so, the amount paid to such informers during the last 3 years;

(b) whether in certain cases the reward paid was less than 10 per cent;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government pays 10 per cent of the total black money unearthed or 10 per cent of the income tax earned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (d) Reward is paid at a rate not exceeding ten per cent of the extra income tax levied and actually realised if the aforesaid tax is directly attributable to the information and documents furnished by the informer. The quantum of reward is also subject to the monetary ceiling prescribed for this purpose from time to time. However, the monetary ceiling can be waived in some specified circumstances. An amount of Rs. 84,13,000/- approximately was paid to informers by way of reward during the last three years.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The main reasons for payment of reward at a rate less than ten percent are as follows:—

(1) The amount of reward and the rate at which it is worked out depends on several factors including, *interalia*, the nature accuracy usefulness and quality of the informer's information and the assistance rendered by him. Therefore, in suitable cases reward can be quantified by applying a rate of less than ten per cent.

(2) The rate of reward can be less than ten per cent in the following types of cases also:—

(i) cases in which a final reward has not become due and only an interim reward has been paid;

(ii) cases in which the amount of reward has been restricted to the monetary ceiling prescribed for this purpose.

Indian Position in Genetic Engineering and Bio-Technology

4043. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that developed world is on the threshold of a Scientific revolution in genetic engineering and bio-technology,